

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 086384

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ORIGIN COA-02

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 AGR-20 EB-11 COME-00 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 L-03 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25

NEA-10 /134 R

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APPROVED BY S/WF:EMMARTIN

IO/AGR - JLMILLS

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R 262327Z APR 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, IN

SUBJECT: FERTILIZER RESOLUTION AT UNGA

FROM AMBASSADOR MARTIN TO AMBASSADOR FERGUSON

1. RE FERTILIZER RESOLUTION AT UNGA, BELIEVE IT ESSENTIAL FOR SPONSORS, ESPECIALLY THOSE FROM DEVELOPED COUNTRIES TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN NEED FOR FOREIGN EXCHANGE TO IMPORT FERTILIZERS AND NEED TO HAVE MORE FERTILIZERS PHYSICALLY AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE.

2. FIRST IS JUST PART, A VARYING PART FROM POOR COUNTRY TO COUNTRY AND OFTEN SMALL PART OF GENERAL SCARCITY OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE. WAYS MUST BE FOUND TO REDUCE THIS PROBLEM FROM ITS PRESENT CRISIS LEVEL IN MANY OF THE POOREST COUNTRIES. BUT BEST WAY IS TO DEAL WITH IT DIRECTLY AND OVERALL AND NOT THROUGH PIECEMEAL ATTEMPTS TO DOLE OUT MONEY FROM ONE SPIGOT FOR FERTILIZER, ANOTHER FOR FOOD, ANOTHER FOR OIL, ETC. THIS IS PATH TO CHAOS, DISCRIMINATION AND DISASTER.

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3. SECOND IS MOST CRITICAL ISSUE. THERE ARE ONLY TWO
WAYS GET MORE NITROGEN AND PHOSPHATE FERTILIZERS TO
COUNTRIES NEEDING THEM. ONE IS TO INCREASE OUTPUT AT

AT EXISTING LDC PLANTS NOW OPERATING AT 50-60 PERCENT
CAPACITY. ALL HELP POSSIBLE FROM HOST GOVERNMENTS AND
OUTSIDERS NEEDED FOR THIS. SECOND IS TO LIMIT USE OF
FERTILIZER BY FARMERS OF BETTER OFF COUNTRIES SO HARD HIT
CAN GET MORE. WHAT CUTS HAVE NEW ZEALAND, FOR EXAMPLE,
PROPOSED FOR HER FARMERS? ESSENTIAL HAVE INTERNATIONAL
COOPERATION ON THIS SO RESTRAINT BY ONE DOESN'T JUST
RELEASE FERTILIZER TO OTHER COUNTRY WITH GOOD CONNECTIONS.
KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PROCUREMENT, IMPORTS, LESS DEVELOPED COUNTRIES, FERTILIZERS, UNGA RESOLUTIONS, FOREIGN EXCHANGE, INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION, NITROGEN, PHOSPHATES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 APR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974STATE086384
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: EMMARTIN:PB
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740100-0801
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t1974049/aaaaahsd.tel
Line Count: 74
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN COA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 JUN 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <28 JUN 2002 by cunninfx>; APPROVED <14 FEB 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FERTILIZER RESOLUTION AT UNGA FROM AMBASSADOR MARTIN TO AMBASSADOR FERGUSON
TAGS: EAGR, IN
To: USUN NEW YORK
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005